

IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the following amended claims 1, 3, 31, 33 and 35 as set forth below, for claims 1, 3, 31, 33 and 35, as originally filed in the above-identified application. A copy of the amended claims showing the amendments made thereto, including additions being shown with underlining and deletions being shown in brackets, is attached in the appendix herewith.

1. (Amended) A coated low density polymeric foam comprising:

A2
a flexible, low density polymeric foam substrate having a water based coating, the coating comprising a prepolymer, a monomer, a catalyst and a graft initiator.

3. (Amended) The coated polymeric foam of claim 1, wherein the low density

A3
polymeric foam is formed from the group consisting of polyvinyl chloride, acrylo nitrile butadiene rubber, styrene butadiene rubber, ethylene-propylene-diene rubber, polychloroprene, polyethylene, polypropylene, co-polymers of ethylene, co-polymers of propylene and combinations thereof.

31. (Amended) A coated polymeric foam comprising:

A4
a flexible, polymeric foam substrate having a coating, the coating comprising a water dispersible prepolymer, a monomer, a catalyst and a graft initiator.

33. (Amended) The coated polymeric foam of claim 31, wherein the polymeric foam

A5
is formed from the group consisting of polyvinyl chloride, acrylo nitrile butadiene rubber,

As
Cont'd

styrene butadiene rubber, ethylene-propylene-diene rubber, polychloroprene, polyethylene, polypropylene, co-polymers of ethylene, co-polymers of propylene and combinations thereof.

35. (Amended) The coated polymeric foam of claim 31, wherein the graft initiator is selected from the group consisting of ferrous ammonium sulfate and silver nitrate.

Ab

REMARKS

Applicants confirm the election of claims 1-14 and 31 -39 and cancellation of the non- ✓
elected claims. Claims 1 and 31 have been amended to recite that the low density foam is flexible. Additionally, claim 1 has been amended to recite the coating is water based. Furthermore, claims 3, 33, and 35 and the specification have been amended to correct some minor informalities. Thus, claims 1-14 and 31 -39 are currently pending.

Claims 31 and 35-39 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,107,228 to *Horowitz et al.* The PTO states that *Horowitz et al.* discloses a paint composition being applied to a Noryl foam substrate. The PTO also states that *Horowitz et al.* teaches the paint composition comprising urethane prepolymer, vinyl monomer, silver nitrate, UV blocker and peroxide.

"A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." MPEP 2131 quoting Verolegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987).

Applicants respectfully contend that *Horowitz et al.* does not teach each and every element as recited in the present application. Specifically, *Horowitz et al.* fails to teach the coating having a water dispersible prepolymer as claimed in claim 31. *Horowitz et al.* teaches a